



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Art Unit : 1627
Examiner : T. Prasthofer
Serial No. : 09/586,131
Filed : June 2, 2000
Inventor : Marc Delcourt
Title : CLONING METHOD BY
: MULTIPLE-DIGESTION,
: VECTORS FOR
: IMPLEMENTING SAME
: AND APPLICATIONS



Docket No.: 1184-00

SEP 27 2001

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Dated: September 21, 2001

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AMENDMENT AND ARGUMENT

Commissioner for Patents
Washington, D.C. 20231

Sir:

This is in response to the Official Action dated April 23, 2001. Applicant requests reconsideration and submits the following in support thereof.

Version with Markings Showing Changes to the Claims

1. A process for isolating an intact clone of one target nucleic acid fragment having a known characteristic, from a group number of fragments, said method being useful to isolate an intact nucleic acid fragment and diagnose genetic disease, comprising:

- a) preparing an initial library of clones from said group number of fragments using a vector containing no more than a pre-determined number of known restriction sites;
- b) subjecting said initial library to a plurality of restriction enzymes individually, which plurality of enzymes do not include those to which said vector is sensitive, to produce a group of monodigested libraries;
- c) screening said group of monodigested libraries for said known characteristic